Appl. No. 09/981,636 Amdt. Dated March 3, 2005

Reply to Office action of November 5, 2004

## **Amendments to the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 16-72.

Please amend claims 1, 2, 6-12, 14 and 15.

Please add new claims 73-93.

These amendments introduce no new matter and support for the amendment is replete throughout the specification and claims as originally filed. These amendments are made without prejudice and are not to be construed as abandonment of the previously claimed subject matter, or agreement with any objection or rejection of record.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

## **Listing of Claims:**

- 1. (Currently amended) A method of detecting ligand internalization of identifying ligands that are internalized into a cell, said method comprising:
- i) contacting said cell with a <u>ligand and a reporter</u>, <u>wherein the</u> reporter non-covalently-coupled couples to <u>a the</u> ligand;
- ii) dissociating the reporter from the ligand non-internalized ligand and removing dissociated reporter from the surface of said cell; and
- iii) detecting the presence of the reporter within remaining in said cell, whereby the presence of the reporter within said cell indicates that said ligand is internalized into said cell.
- 2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said contacting the cell with the ligand and the reporter comprises:

contacting said cell with a ligand comprising an epitope tag; and contacting-said cell the ligand with a reporter comprising a moiety that binds said epitope tag.

- 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said ligand is a ligand that binds to a cell surface receptor.
- 4. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein said ligand is a peptide.

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- 5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said ligand is selected from the group consisting of an antibody, scFv, an Fv, an Fab, a monoclonal antibody, a cytokine, and a growth factor.
- 6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said ligand is a ligand produced in a phage display library member of a combinatorial library.
- 7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 6, wherein said phage display combinatorial library uses a filamentous phage comprises a combinatorial chemical library, a recombinant library, or a phage display library.
- 8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said reporter is non-covalently coupled to a-the ligand-by via an epitope tag.
- 9. (Currently amended) The method of <u>claim 1 claim 8</u>, wherein <u>said reporter is non-covalently coupled to a ligand by an-the</u> epitope tag is selected from the group consisting of a His-tag, a Flag-tag, an HA-tag, a myc-tag, and a DYKDDDDK epitope.
- 10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said reporter is a the reporter is selected from the group consisting of an enzyme, a colorimetric label, a fluorescent label, a luminescent label, a radioactive label, a nanoparticle, a spin label, a magnetic bead, and a liposome.
- 11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 claim 8, wherein said epitope tag is a hexahistidine (His-6) tag and said reporter is a liposome comprising a nitrilotriacetic acid (NTA) lipid or an iminodiacetic acid (IDA) lipid.
- 12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 claim 8, wherein said ligand is an antibody and said epitope tag is attached to said antibody through a covalent linkage to protein A or protein G.
- 13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said cell is a cancer cell.
- (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:iv) isolating identifying the ligand that is internalized into said cell.

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16-72 (Cancelled)

- 15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14, wherein said isolating identifying the ligand comprises determining the amino acid sequence of a the internalized ligand that is internalized by said cell or determining the sequence of a nucleic acid encoding said ligand.
- 73. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein the epitope tag comprises a polyhistidine tag, and wherein the noncovalent bond comprises a metal chelation bond between the reporter and the polyhistidine tag.
- 74. (New) The method of claim 73, wherein the reporter is selected from the group consisting of an enzyme, a colorimetric label, a fluorescent label, a luminescent label, a radioactive label, a nanoparticle, a spin label, a magnetic bead, and a liposome.
- 75. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the reporter comprises a metal ion complexed to a chelator selected from the group consisting of NTA, IDA, a C-substituted derivative of NTA, and a C-substituted derivative of IDA.
- 76. (New) The method of claim 75, wherein the metal ion comprises a divalent ion of Cu, Ni, Co or Zn.
- 77. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein the ligand and the reporter are combined to form a non-covalent bond prior to the contacting step.
- 78. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein the ligand and the reporter are combined to form a non-covalent bond during the contacting step.
- 79. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the method is performed in a microtiter plate.
- 80. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein detecting the presence of the reporter comprises performing scintillography or autoradiography.
- 81. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein detecting the presence of the reporter comprises performing fluorimetry, flow cytometry or fluorescent microscopy.
- 82. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein detecting the presence of the reporter comprises determining cell proliferation or cell mortality.

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- 83. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein detecting the presence of the reporter comprises isolating the cell comprising the internalized ligand.
- 84. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein detecting the presence of the reporter comprises a quantitative determination.
- 85. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein detecting the presence of the reporter comprises:
- a) performing a first detecting step prior to dissociating reporter from the noninternalized ligand; and,
- b) performing a second detecting step after dissociating reporter from the noninternalized ligand.
- 86. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein contacting the cell with the ligand and the reporter comprises contacting the cell with at least two different ligands.
- 87. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein steps i, ii and iii are performed on a plurality of cells.
- 88. (New) The method of claim 87, wherein detecting the presence of the reporter comprises detecting one or more cells comprising the reporter.
- 89. (New) The method of claim 88, wherein the reporter comprises a fluorescent label, and wherein the one or more cells are detected by flow cytometry, fluorescent microscopy, or fluorescence-activated cell sorting.
- 90. (New) The method of claim 88, wherein the reporter comprises a magnetic bead, and wherein the one or more cells are detected by magnetometry or by magnetic separation.
- 91. (New) The method of claim 88, wherein the reporter comprises a radioactive label, and wherein the one or more cells are detected by autoradiography.
- 92. (New) The method of claim 87, further comprising isolating a member cell that internalized the ligand.
- 93. (New) The method of claim 87, wherein detecting the presence of the reporter comprises quantification of the reporter present in said cell.